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BY THE SENATE,
March 8th, 1860.
Read, and 500 copies ordered to be printed.

REPORT

OF THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON THE

RESOLUTIONS

OF THE

LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly has received a series of resolutions from the State of South Carolina, transmitted to us by the Governor of Maryland, relating to the appointment of Delegates by all the slaveholding States to meet in convention for the purpose of concerting measures for united action; and whereas, we deem it due and respectful to the sovereign and gallant State of South Carolina to express the sentiments of Maryland in reference to the proposition contained in those resolutions; therefore, be it

Resolved, That whilst we are deeply sensible of the aggressive policy of the anti-slavery elements of the country towards our southern institutions, and the unjust and unpatriotic assaults of the fanatical and misguided societies of the North, and whilst we condemn the gross violations of public and of private right, the invasion of the soil of a sister State, by bands of lawless ruffians, the system of decoying and assisting the escape of fugitive slaves, and the constant effort of the Republican party of the North to obtain control of the National Government, in order to trample still further upon our rights, yet as a member of this great Confederacy of States, Maryland will not be precipitate to initiate a system that may begin the destruction of this majestic work of our fathers;

Resolved, That in the spirit of the patriots of the Revolution, we are willing to exhaust all reasonable means to convince our northern adversaries that a mutual interest and a mutual patriotism, and a common destiny shall bind us together as brethren rather than sever us as foes, and with this purpose we desire to express to them our deep apprehension of the threatening prospect of our internal affairs; our remonstrance against the spirit of intolerance and aggression, and our fixed determination to cling to the Union so long as its great principles can be preserved, and the blessings for which it was intended can be secured; but our deep and solemn conviction

that the Union must be torn in fragments unless equal rights to all sections of the country are sacredly preserved; we also respectfully, but earnestly, desire to assure our brethren of South Carolina, that should the hour ever arrive when the Union must be dissolved, Maryland will cast her lot with her sister States of the South, and abide their fortune to the fullest extent;

Resolved, That we deem it inexpedient to call a southern convention in the present excited condition of the country, relying upon the belief that the recent outrages against the South have already awakened the patriotism and justice of the majority of our northern brethren, but should this fond hope result in a shameless failure, our earnest protest be disregarded, and the disruption of these States be rendered inevitable, that Maryland will then be prepared to meet her sister States of the South in a southern convention for the protection of southern rights;

Resolved, That the Governor of this State be directed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the Governor of South Carolina, and to the Governors of each of the slaveholding States.